

Amendments to the Specification

Please insert the following paragraph before the first paragraph on Page 1:

Cross Reference to Related Application

This application is a division of Application Serial No. 09/560,170, filed April 28, 2000.

Please amend the paragraph at page 7, lines 9-14 as follows:

The intermediate coating, topcoat and strip agent can contain a variety of adjuvants to alter the performance of properties of each component before or after application to a substrate. Useful adjuvants include leveling agents and other surface-active agents, defoamers, solvents to accelerate or to slow the drying rate, waxes, fillers, indicators and colorants. ~~They~~ The types and amounts of such adjuvants will be apparent to those skilled in the art.

Please amend the paragraph at page 8, lines 15 – 24 as follows:

The compositions of the invention typically will be sold in the form of a kit containing the intermediate coating and topcoat in containers (e.g., separate containers) together with suitable directions for carrying out the methods of the invention. If desired, the intermediate coating or topcoat could be packaged as concentrates intended to be ~~typically will be~~ mixed with water or another suitable solvent at about a 15 – 40 % solids level. Optionally the kit will include a container of the strip agent. The strip agent typically will be mixed with water or another suitable solvent ~~at about a~~ at about 5 – 30 % by weight. The kit can also contain undercoat materials (e.g., leveling coatings) that can be applied to the substrate before application of the intermediate coating, and overcoat materials (e.g., wax finishes) that can be applied atop the topcoat.